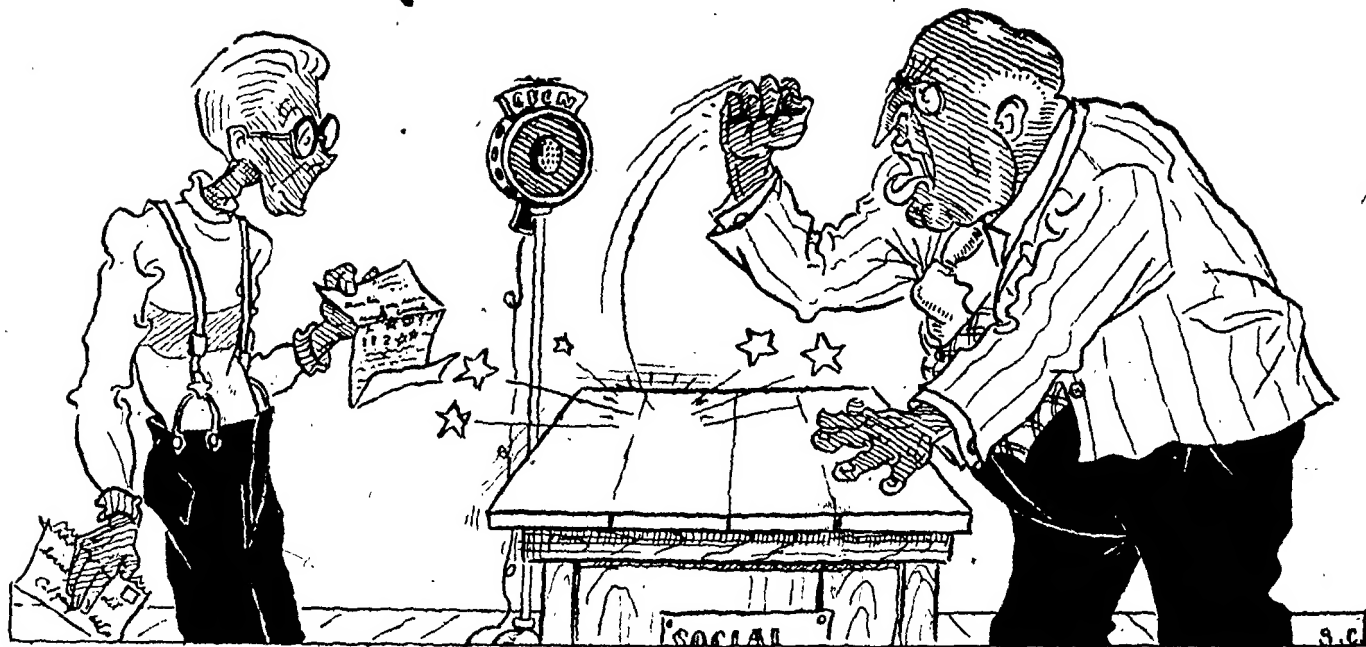


The
Amos and Andy
of
Social Credit

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AMOS—"Say, Andy, de voter what writes dis lettah am all fussed up 'bout some old law passed by a man by de name of Gresham. He say dis law doan let two kinds ob money to circ'late in de same place 'less dey is interchang'ble an' redeem'ble in each other, an' dat de one what is cheapest will drive de good money out ob de country. Can youse do anythin' 'bout dat?"

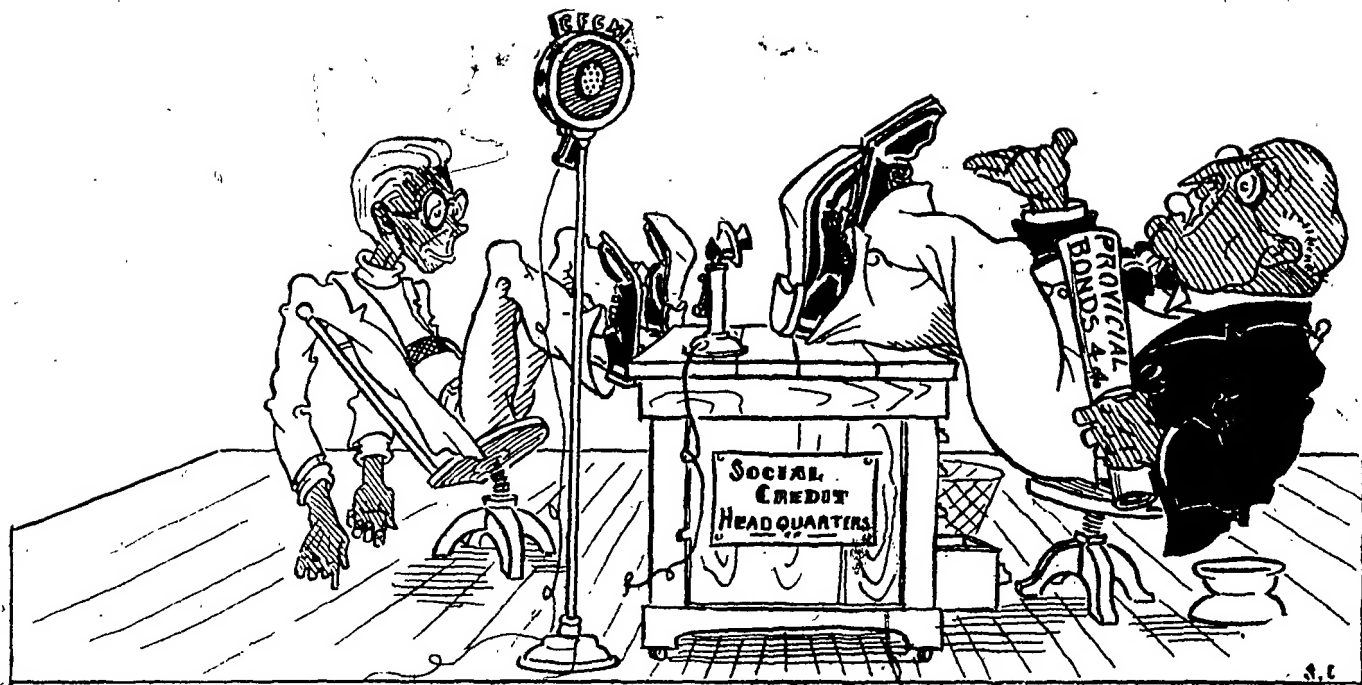
ANDY—"Shore, shore ah can. If dat man Gresham made any sech,law as dat ah'll unrepeal it, jes like we is gwine to unrepeal de B.N.A. Act. Who is dis man Gresham, anyhow, tryin' to make laws fo' us? Ah says, whatever de people ob Alberta wants, de people can hab. No old Gresham law an' no old B.N.A. Act is gwine to stop me. Where things is scientific who wants to be bothered wid constitooshuns?"

The Principles of Inflation

Of all the disastrous and misery breeding calamities ever inflicted upon the suffering mortals of earth, none have ever equalled, or surpassed the ruination wrought by the unlimited issue of fiat paper currency, or what we describe in every-day language as inflation. Drought and chinch bugs, cyclones, earthquakes and pestilences of plagues, are local and insignificant in comparison. It were better to suffer the boils of Job or the grasshopper locust and other plagues laid on Pharoah in Egypt. Here is the reason why the Mennonites from Russia, and the German emigrant, remembering the very recent destruction in these countries, will have nothing to do with Mr. Aberhart's proposal to abandon the use of money and revert to non-negotiable certificates, issued without limitation and without redeemable qualifications. Here is why the thinking labor man, knowing that this outlaw money will have little or no value, if it is ever introduced, are leaving the Aberhart band wagon. Mr. Aberhart has said to all labor, that if he is elected no wage-earner in Alberta can be paid in money, but must

accept his substitute, whether the worker wants to or not. I quote from page 21 of the Social Credit Manual: "Salaries or wages for work done will be paid as now, **but in credit, not money.**"

One of the best illustrations of what happens in a case of depreciated currency, is a story credited to ex-President Lincoln of the United States. The story was of a Mississippi River Steamboat Captain, in the days when river boats burned wood. Proceeding up the river during the civil war in America, he saw a large pile of cord wood on the shore and pulled up alongside. Seeing a native seated by the wood, the following dialogue took place: "Hello, Mister, do you own that wood?" The native replied that he did and wished to sell it. The next question was, "Will you take confederate paper money?" The reply was "Yes sir." "On what basis of exchange?" asked the captain, and the owner of the wood replied: "Cord for cord." You might buy a ton of coal with Aberhart's "tickets" on a basis of ton for ton.



AMOS—"Andy, how come youse is gonna pay foah per cent. interest on all de bonds dat you sells an' den lend de money free, widout interest, to eve'-body? Some people what doan un'erstan' thinks youse is gonna lose on dat deal."

ANDY—"Yes, Amos, dey is lots ob people doan yet un'erstan'. Shore we kin dó it. Ob coase you couldn't make no money on a small loan dat way, but it's de big tunovah what counts. We'll do a whole volume, mebbly two volumes ob business on them bases. Ah 'specs mebbly we's gonna to get out ob debt this a-way. It am de scientific way."

Free Loans to All Borrowers

On several occasions Mr. Aberhart has promised to have his government (if he ever has one) loan all the capital required by business men, interest free. In his latest publication or manual, on page 28, he says:—

"In order that credit may be adequate to provide and distribute goods, the state must be prepared to issue credit, **without interest**, to bona fide producers and distributors."

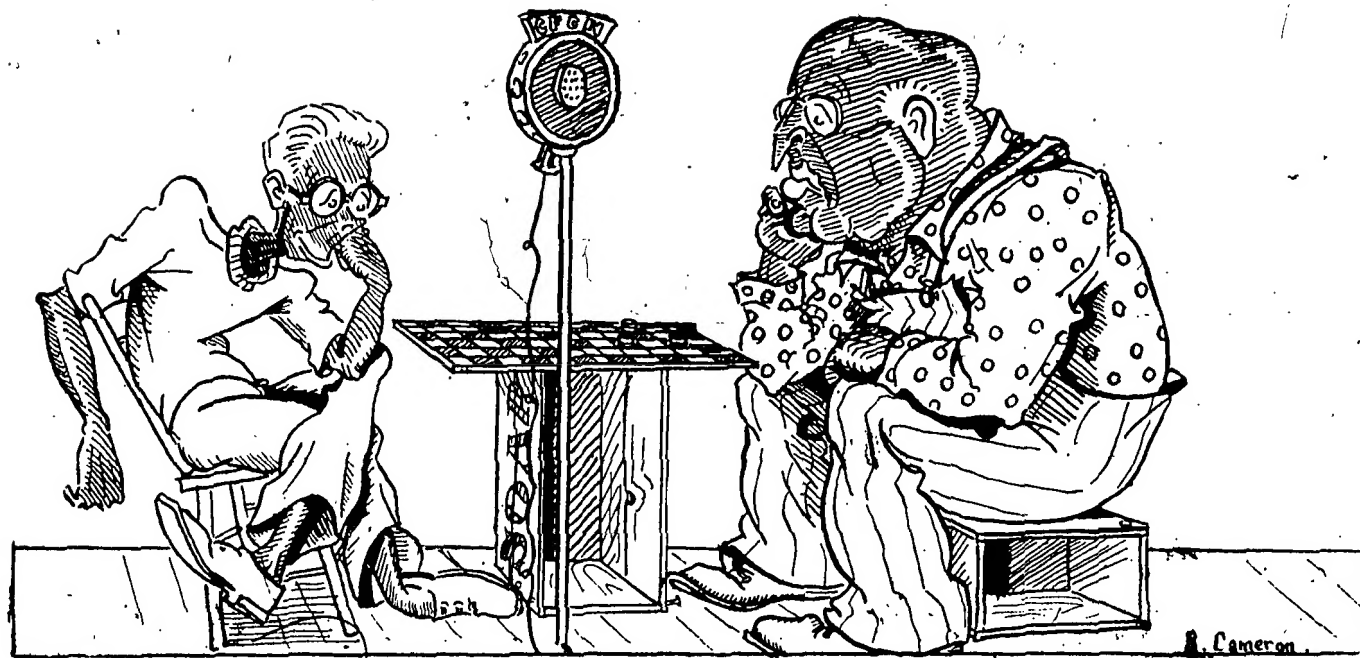
In this case he did not even say that borrower must belong to the S.F.N. (Something-for-Nothing) Party, as he does when discovering who is qualified to receive dividends.

In answer to question 36, on page 53, of the Social Credit Manual, Mr. Aberhart proposes loans to private individuals, without interest and in the answer to question 37, the same proposal is made to municipalities. You will have noticed all through the "system," the same leader has and does, **propose to borrow money on bonds, bearing 4% annual interest**, which he says he will pay to any investor. No wonder Amos is worried.

This is a proposal for high financing which would make Ponzi's face turn red. In all seriousness, Mr. Voter, what can you think of a proposal to borrow money at 4% and loan it out free of interest to all comers? Is that the kind of a business man you would like to have managing your business? If any other candidate for office anywhere would put that one plank in his platform, among a dozen sound and commendable proposals, this one ridiculous, unsound, unbusinesslike suggestion to handle the public's money in this foolish manner, would defeat any candidate who endorsed it. This one proposal which would completely destroy confidence in the financial soundness of any government and any government's credit, will defeat Mr. Aberhart.

It is enough alone to defeat him, but it is not alone, it is only one of a number of colossal, destructive fallacious promises we are calling to your attention.

If there is a stop cock on his pipe line of promises, somebody ought to ask him to shut it off.



AMOS—"Say, Andy, one ob dem walkin' delegate fellers from de Labor Union come ask 'bout sumpin' he calls Collective Bargainin' under our inspired system. Ah tol' him to read answers to question sixteen in de Manual. whar it shows we 'don' intend to hab no unions. Our fixer will attend to all dat.

ANDY—"Yes, Amos, I'se gwine to show dem Labor fellers how our fixer can fix 'em all up. Dat fixer will know moah 'bout wages 'n all dem union delegates. What's moah, ef labor had dem unions nex' thing we knows dey'd be wantin' to be paid in real money. Fo' which same reason ah puts in dat 'splanashun on page twenty-one ob de manual what says dey is all gonna to be paid in credits, not money, if dey works in Alberta, unions or no unions."

Fixing Wages for Labor

In any free country, liberty begins with the right of the individual to select his own avocation, value his own services and reap the reward of his own efforts. To establish a "fixer" to preside over the destinies of the man who works, arbitrarily regulate his wage and dictate the character and quality of the currency in which he must accept his pay, is not Facism, it comes nearer to slavery. When the United States Congress undertook to define "slavery" in terse language for purpose of amending the constitution of that country, they used the words:—

"Involuntary servitude, which is not a punishment for crime."

To force the worker to accept terms, which are involuntary and made by a fixer, both as to the amount of his pay and the character of money received, is **involuntary servitude**.

For two generations organized labor has held to the principle of "collective bargaining," as the most

sacred tenet of all labor ideals. Will you surrender this fundamental principle of your organization and embrace an unknown "fixer" instead, in whose selection you have no voice? Don't forget, Mr. Worker, "fixing prices and wages" is as definite and fundamental in Aberhart's proposals as the payment of hand-outs. See Social Credit Manual, page 21, paragraph B, also question 16, page 41. No government can take complete authority to fix prices of all production, without taking the right to fix wages paid in the process of production. One authority is a complement of the other.

With a fixer for the price of merchandise and the wages of labor, neither the business man or laborer would have any more liberty, than a Jew in Egypt before the Exodus.

Here is a case of mutual interest between labor and industry. They may differ on the question of taking **profits** out of business, but they can agree on keeping **Prophets** out of politics.



AMOS—Andy, heah's a lettah from one ob ouah candidates an' he says as how you prints too many books. You knows dat li'l yallar one we print ovah a year ago. We done say in it dat we is gonna take eve'body's life insuahance away from 'em. Now youse tellin' 'em different. Ef we didn't hev it in print they couldn't prove it on us.

ANDY—Well, Amos, Ah doan see why peoples keeps ole books ovah a yeah. When I'se prem-er Ise gonna pass a law to unbolish all books ovah a yeah old, jes like we cancels deposits in ouah Credit House every yeah. When Ah wrote dat 'bout grabbin' life insuahance policies, Ah didn't thought ob dis scheme ob takin' sixty-five cents out ob ev'ry bushel ob de farmer's wheat. Dem insuahance policies might be took out ob de provinces, but dey kaint dodge dat wheat tax.

Confiscation of Life Insurance Policies

Mr. Aberhart is, indeed, a very hard man to pin down to any definite statements. He has made many statements and promises, which he afterward withdrew or denied entirely. It is only when he has put his proposals in print over his own signature, that you can be sure and even then he sometimes uses his memory as a forgetter. A notable instance of this is the statement made in his first pamphlet. The celebrated little yellow book. In this book on page 8, paragraph 4, he said:—

"If the money is inadequate to meet present indebtedness, the **citizens may be called upon** to transfer cash surrender values on life insurance policies or **other documents** that would produce money, for Provincial Government Bonds as above."

He follows this proposal with the statement that "Life Insurance is a useless expense." He now denies that he ever proposed that the citizen should be "**called upon**" to kick in with his life insurance. This is a case of too many books. In this same little book he also said on page 4-B:—

"All basic dividend credits therefore must be claimed or drawn during the current year."

"All salaries or wages or incomes from whatever source must be expended by the end of the year following the receipt of same."

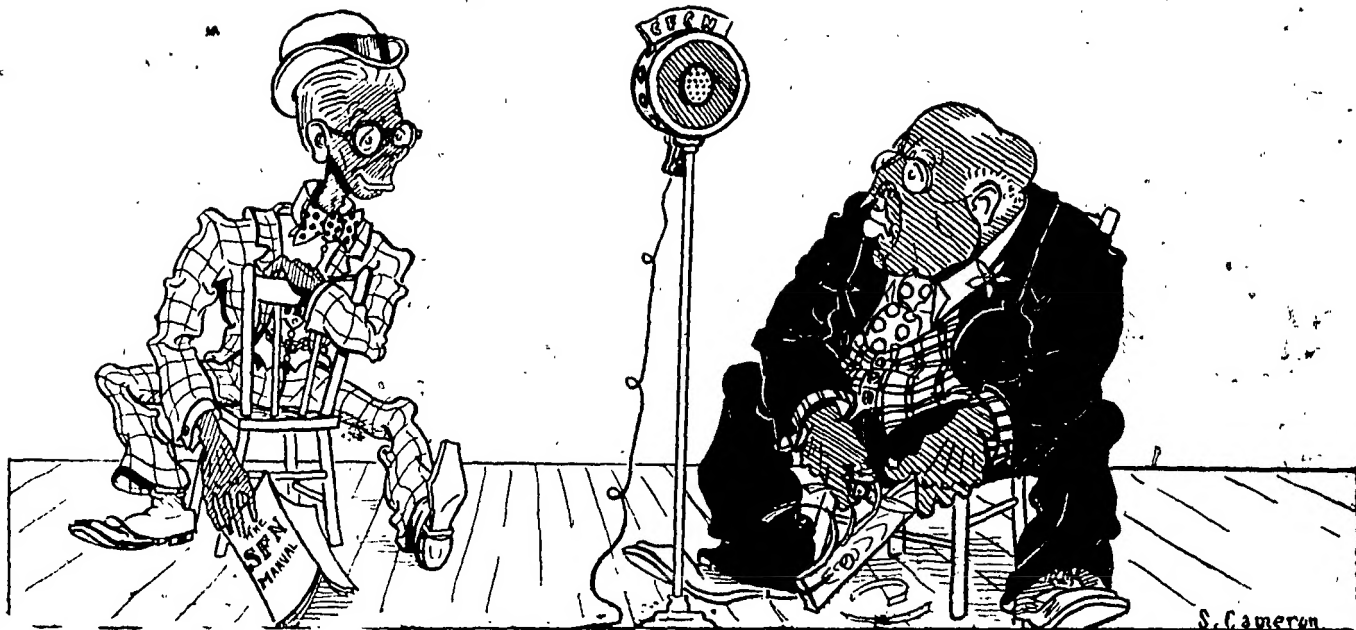
"If any credit, under the above, remains unused, or unclaimed, the State Credit House should write the same off the Citizen's account."

Writing off the citizen's balance at the bank is the simplest form of confiscation. Mr. Aberhart will say that forcing the citizen to exchange perfectly good life insurance for bonds payable in phoney money is not confiscation. The confiscation would only be complete when the citizen tried to sell the bonds and found them worth about as much as a title of nobility in Russia. Here is scientific economy, practically applied.

When spoliation is economy and confiscation is scientific, then and not till then, will Douglassism be "Scientific economy."

What is morally wrong cannot be made morally right by making it legal.





AMOS—Andy, does you know a lot ob peoples is laffin' 'bout youab sayin' as you'd close dem Dominion post offices an' 'stablish some ob ouab own. Seems mighty hard to make some peoples believe in de powah ob inspirashun.

ANDY—Yes, Amos, seems like lots ob peoples doan know what a big man Ah is. Aftah we starts ouah own post offices we might build us a navy an' send out some ambass'doahs. But we won't join no League ob Nations. No, sir, Amos; dey might want to hamper ouab fixer some.

Closing Dominion Post Offices

Recently in addresses made in Southern Alberta, Mr. Aberhart told his audiences that if the Dominion Post Offices refused to submit to his directions and "co-operate," he would start Post Offices for the Province. Here is perhaps the most fantastic piece of bombastic arrogance ever uttered by a public man. It startles the intelligence, benumbs the faith of his followers, and shocks all patriotic concepts of national unity. It would not be more presumptuous or unreasonable to assume treaty-making powers with foreign countries, or the establishment of an Alberta dynasty of Kings. There is just one of two things true—either Mr. Aberhart is positively ignorant of the constitution of Canada, fixing the authority for postal regulation in the Dominion, or he is defiantly secessionist. Either one of these assumptions places him beyond the pale of possibility as a premier.

Speaking of secession, did you ever read carefully what Major Douglas said in his last report to the Alberta Government? It is significant, threatening,

and as truly vague as Douglas usually is. Mr. Douglas said in paragraph 11 of his report:—

"It may not be out of place to comment at this point upon the rise of the idea of secession . . ."

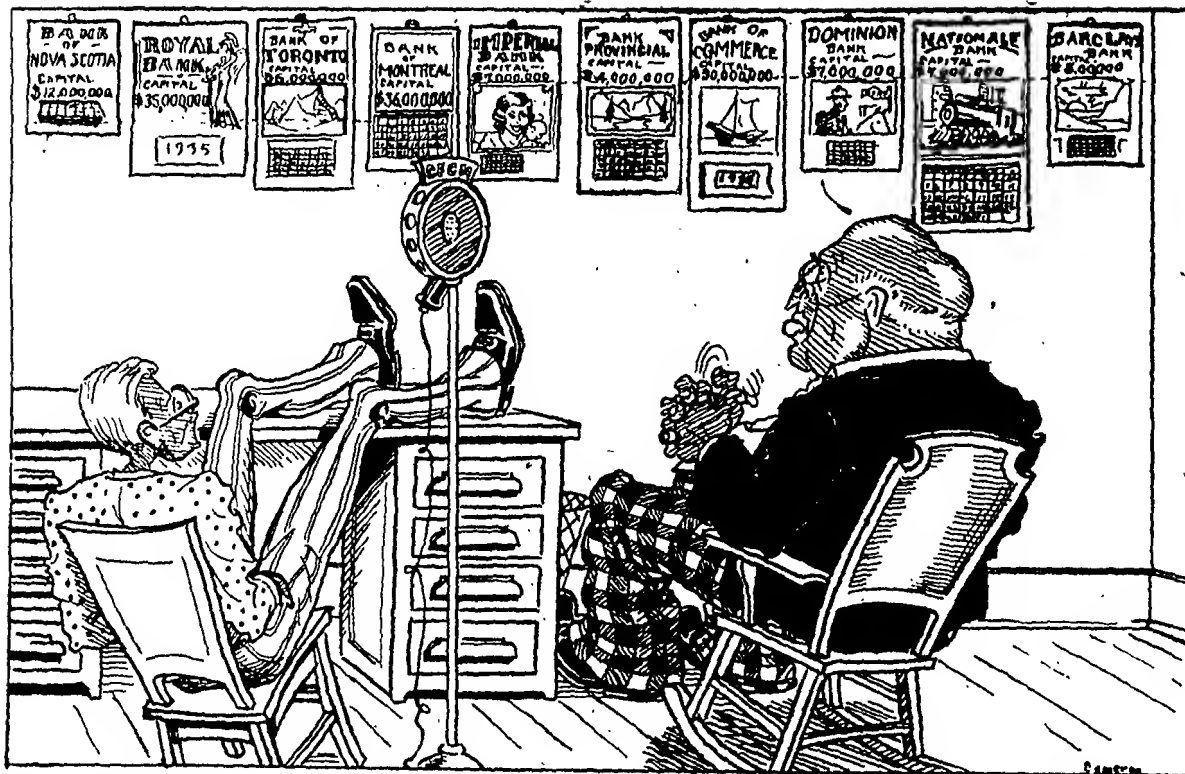
"That in fact it is only insistence upon an ineffective financial system which raises the question of secession into the sphere of practical politics."

In section 12 he says:—

"The alternatives lie between a surrender to interests whose legal position is doubtful and whose power is neither impregnable nor free from serious attack, in quarters outside Alberta, on the one hand, and **measures designed to free the province from external control.**"

Put your own interpretation on that language and see what you make of it. Where did Mr. Douglas get the idea in Alberta, that there was a great "**rise in the idea of secession?**"

Do you suppose Mr. Aberhart could answer that question?



AMOS—I've done added up all de paid-up capital of de banks ob Canada, an' it comes to \$144,500,000. W'en you'all is prem-eer you is gonna giv away as much as all dem banks' capital ev'y yeah, an' mebb'y moah. Am dere gonna be anythin' lef' fer dem int'rest-free loans we'all promised?

ANDY—Shore, shore. Ain't Ah gonna to hev fixers to fix a consumer's tax—er-r-r-Ah means levy. All we has to do is raise de consumer levy an' get dat 65 cent on de bushel ob wheat. We hasn't come yet to de oats, barley an' pigs. Day ought to be somethin' stimulat'in we could get out ob rye, too, Amos. Ah kin levy out ob ouah producers more'n all dem banks is got capital. Dat's de scientific way, Amos.

How Much Can Alberta Pay in Taxes?

Study the cartoon with the bank calendars on the wall. If that doesn't make a voter do a little thinking, then he or she was born a social creditor, and is not to blame. Do you think you can "levy" out of the producers and consumers of Alberta, with our small population, as much money in one year, as will equal all the capital stock of all the banks in Canada, then give it away and have something left for interest, free loans and "compensated price fixing?" If we could do that we could pay off all the provincial debts, and do it in one year, instead of doing it in thirty years.

If the Province can "levy" out of our people the amount Mr. Aberhart proposes to give away in a year, we could start up, with the money, as many more banks as we already have and have them all in Alberta. What a glorious time politicians could have running these banks, while the capital lasted. Aberhart thinks if they all went broke in a year, we could raise as much capital again next year in the same way. The point to this cartoon is, the insult to my intelligence and yours, in the proposal to "levy" that vast sum out of the producers of Alberta, and spend it without getting any consideration back for the expenditure. If you

can believe that, then your bump of credulity must stand out on your cranium like the dome on the Parliament Buildings in Edmonton. If you have a one-dollar stake in Alberta and do not believe this possible, then you have a duty to yourself and every other fellow citizen to help avoid this calamity. Work against it.

Do you believe the people of Alberta can pay every year, as much taxes as all the five provinces from Ontario to the Pacific Ocean now pay?

1931 — REVENUE OF FIVE WESTERN PROVINCES

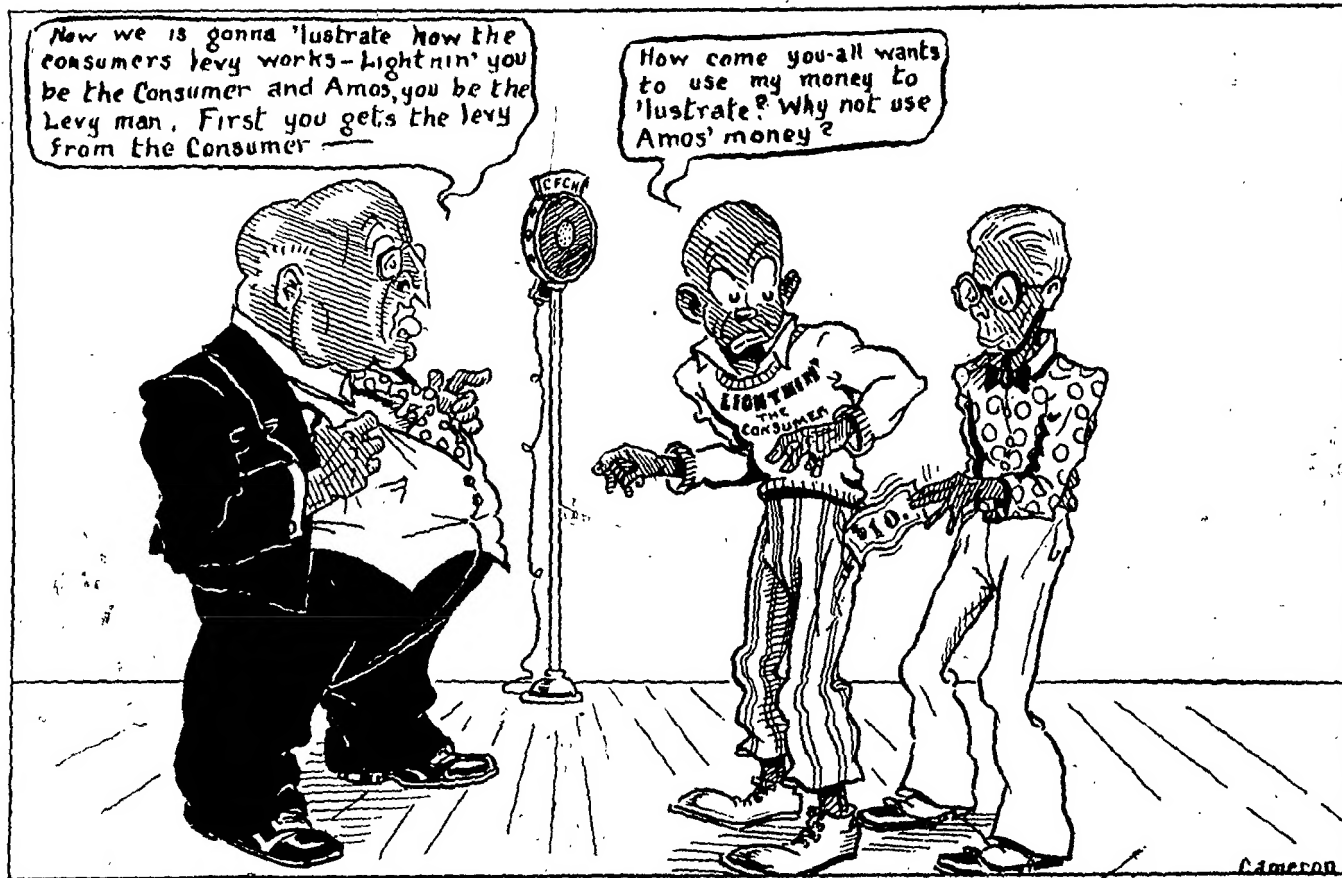
From Year Book, 1933

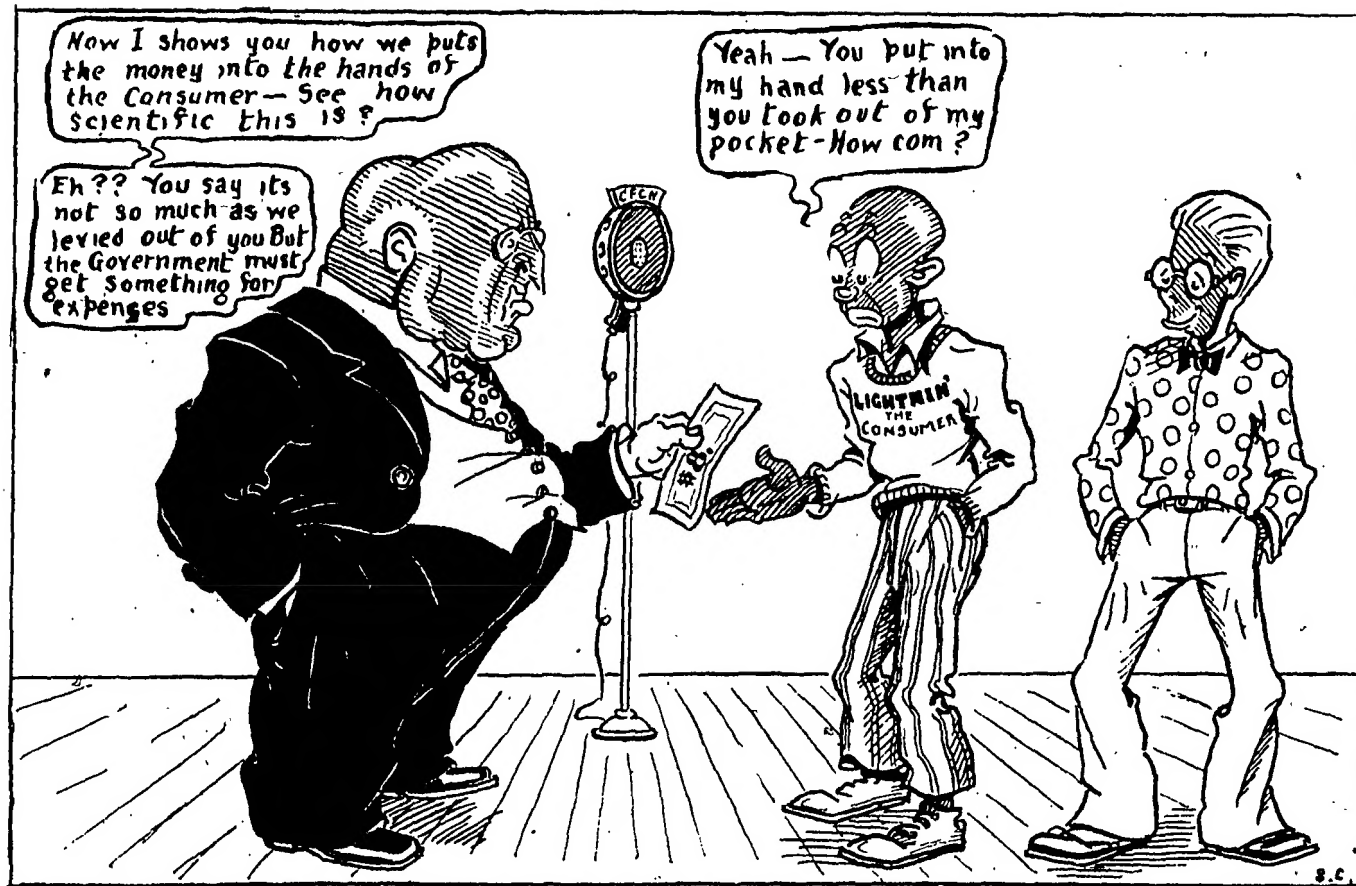
Manitoba	\$13,842,511
Saskatchewan	14,346,010
Alberta	15,710,962
British Columbia	23,988,199
Ontario	54,390,092
Total	\$122,277,784

That total about equals dividends alone. No people, in all the recorded history, bond or free, ever tackled such a monumental taxation problem.

Now we is gonna 'lustrate how the consumers levy works - Lightnin' you be the Consumer and Amos, you be the Levy man. First you gets the levy from the Consumer.

How come you-all wants to use my money to 'lustrate? Why not use Amos' money?



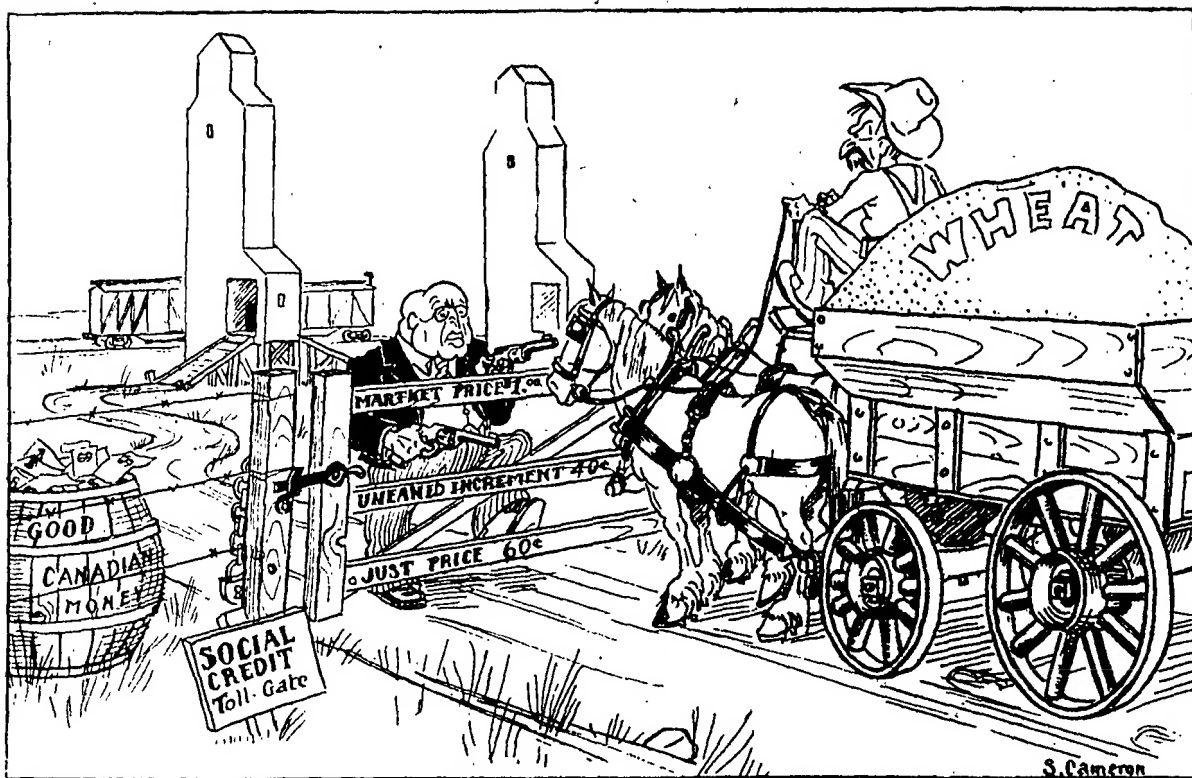


Now I shows you how we puts
the money into the hands of
the Consumer — See how
scientific this is ?

Eh ?? You say its
not so much as we
levied out of you But
the Government must
get something for
expenges

Yeah — You put into
my hand less than
you took out of my
pocket — How com ?

S.C.



ABERHART—Mr. Farmer this is where we take the un-earned increment levy. If that wheat gets out of the Province, we could not get it then.

FARMER—There aint nothing in this wheat that is unearned. I know I have earned every cent the elevators will pay for it.